

VZCZCXYZ0018
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHEGA #6800 3121527
ZNR UUUUU ZZH ZUI RUEWCSE0082 3121516
P 081527Z NOV 06
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0000
INFO ARAB ISRAELI COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS CAIRO 006800

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [ECON](#) [EFIN](#) [MEPN](#) [ARABL](#) [KPAL](#) [EG](#)
SUBJECT: ARAB LEAGUE BOYCOTT NOT OBSERVED BY EGYPT

REF: STATE 180280

11. (U) THIS MESSAGE IS SENSITIVE. PLEASE HANDLE ACCORDINGLY.

12. (SBU) EMBOFF RAISED REFTEL DEMARCHE WITH STAFF AT THE ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARIAT AND THE EGYPTIAN MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, STRESSING USG VIEWS TOWARD THE AL'S ISRAEL BOYCOTT. ACCORDING TO CONTACTS AT THE MFA, EGYPT IS AWARE THAT THE LEAGUE'S BOYCOTT COMMITTEE WILL MEET IN DAMASCUS IN NOVEMBER, BUT WERE UNAWARE OF A DATE. THE MFA STAFF CONFIRMED THAT EGYPT DOES NOT ATTEND THE MEETINGS, SINCE IT HAS NORMAL DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL. SENIOR AL STAFF WERE LIKEWISE UNAWARE OF THE DAMASCUS MEETING DATE, NOTING THAT THE ISSUE WAS NOT HIGH ON THE SECRETARIATS AGENDA. STILL, RESPONDING TO REFTEL DEMARCHE, LEAGUE STAFF POINTED OUT THAT THE "TIME WAS NOT RIGHT" TO SEEK AN END TO THE BOYCOTT DUE TO ONGOING VIOLENCE AND STRIFE IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES.
RICCIARDONE